

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

1. (Currently Amended) An apparatus ~~A guide wire location means (10)~~ for locating, in use, a guide wire at an axis of a neck of a patient's femur, the apparatus comprising:

a base part for securement to a head of the femur;

a second part securable to the base part and spherically adjustable relative thereto;

a third part for directly or indirectly receiving a wire guide, and arranged for plan or adjustment, the third ~~said wire guide receiving~~ part being securable to the second ~~said spherically adjustable~~ part, and

a sighting mechanism comprising ~~means including~~ a probe having a portion ~~part~~ engagable with the head and/or neck of the femur.

2. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of ~~A guide wire location means (10) as claimed in claim 1, wherein in which~~ the sighting mechanism comprises ~~means includes~~ a sighting element.

3. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of ~~A guide wire location means (10) as claimed in claim 2, wherein in which~~ the sighting element is a disc.

4. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of ~~A guide wire location means (10) as claimed in claim 3, wherein in which~~ the disc is the same size as the interior of a cylindrical saw cutter used to ~~which will~~ machine the head.

5. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of ~~A guide wire location means (10) as claimed in claim 1, wherein in which~~ the base part comprises a plurality of ~~includes~~ identical circular plates ~~(11, 12, 13)~~.

6. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of A guide wire location means
~~(10) as claimed in claim 5, wherein in which the~~ each of the plurality of identical circular
plates has have a central aperture.

7. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of A guide wire location means
~~(10) as claimed in claim 6, wherein in which the~~ each of the plurality of identical circular
plates has an annular portion around its central aperture, the annular portion including a
plurality of ~~have there around the central aperture in their annular surfaces~~ equi-angularly
spaced apertures (14, 15, 16).

8. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of A guide wire location means
~~(10) as claimed in claim 7, wherein in which the~~ plurality of equi-angularly spaced apertures
in each circular plate comprises three equi-angularly spaced apertures (14, 15, 16) are three in
number.

9. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of A guide wire location means
~~(10) as claimed in claim 7, wherein~~ or 8 in which the equi-angularly spaced apertures (14, 15,
16) are threaded.

10. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of A guide wire location means
~~(10) as claimed in anyone of claims 1 to 9 in which~~ claim 1, wherein the base part comprises
a plurality of headed studs, each headed stud having a pointed end remote from its head
includes headed studs (17, 18, 19) which have pointed ends remote from their heads.

11. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of A guide wire location means
~~(10) as claimed in anyone of claims 5 to 9 in which~~ includes an claim 5, further comprising
an enclosure (20) having a cylindrical lower portion (21) and a part-spherical upper portion
(22), the upper portion having a central opening (23).

12. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of A guide wire location means
~~(10) as claimed in claim 11, wherein in which~~ the cylindrical lower portion (21) of the
enclosure (20) is outwardly stepped to provide an annular groove so that assembly of the

plurality of circular plates (11, 12, 13) can be located inside an this open end of the cylindrical lower portion (21).

13. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of A guide wire location means (10) ~~as claimed in~~ claim 12, further comprising in which an adjustment member (26) ~~is so shaped configured to that it can~~ be received within the enclosure (20).

14. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of A guide wire location means (10) ~~as claimed in~~ claim 13, wherein in which the adjustment member has a generally cylindrical lower part (27) with a part-spherical upper surface that (28) ~~which~~ substantially matches an interior surface of the the interior part-spherical upper portion surface of the portion (22) of the enclosure (20).

15. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of A guide wire location means (10) ~~as claimed in~~ claim 14, wherein in which the adjustment member (26) has, from the center centre of its part-spherical upper surface (28), a hollow cylindrical boss that (29) ~~which~~ projects through the central opening (23) ~~at the top~~ of the enclosure (20).

16. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of A guide wire location means (10) ~~as claimed in any one of claims 14 or 15 in which~~ claim 14, wherein the generally cylindrical lower part (27) of the adjustment member (26) has equi-angularly spaced slots; ~~these slots~~ extending partly through the part-spherical upper surface (28) of the adjustment member.

17. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of A guide wire location means (10) ~~as claimed in~~ claim 16, wherein in which there are three equi-angularly spaced slots.

18. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of A guide wire location means (10) ~~as claimed in any one of claims 11 to 17 in which~~ claim 11, further comprising a circular lock ring (32) ~~is removably attachable to~~ an exterior surface of the part-spherical upper portion the upper part of the part-spherical exterior surface of the enclosure (20).

19. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of A guide wire location means
~~(10) as claimed in any one of claims 15, 16, or 17 in which claim 15, further comprising a~~
cannula guide (37) ~~is so shaped and~~ configured to be received by the cylindrical boss (29).

20. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of A guide wire location means
~~(10) as claimed in any one of claims 15, 16, or 17 in which claim 18, further comprising a~~
cannula guide ~~is so shaped and~~ configured to be received by the cylindrical boss when the
cylindrical boss (20) extends through a hole (36) of the lock ring (32).

21. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of A guide wire location means
~~(10) as claim in claim 19, wherein or 20 in which the cannula guide comprises (37) is in the~~
form of an elongated cylindrical body having an external circular flange (39) perpendicular to
the body thereto adjacent a reduced diameter end of the body.

22. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of A guide wire location means
~~(10) as claimed in any one of claims 19, 20, or 21 in which claim 19, wherein a sighting disc~~
extends closely through a central circular aperture of a body ~~the body~~ (38) of the cannula
guide (37).

23. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of A guide wire location means
~~(10) as claimed in any one of claims 1 to 4 in which claim 1, wherein the base part is a single~~
piece ~~for securement to a head of the femur is a one-piece base part (57).~~

24. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of A guide wire location means
~~(10) as claimed in claim 23, wherein in which the one-piece base part comprises (57) is in the~~
form of an annulus having an exterior cylindrical surface (58) and a part-spherical upper
surface (59).

25. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of A guide wire location means
~~(10) as claimed in either claim 23, wherein or 24 in which spikes (60) extend from the~~
underside of the exterior cylindrical surface of the base part (58).

26. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of A guide wire location means
~~(10) as claimed in any one of claims 1, 2, 3, or 23 to 25 in which claim 1, wherein the~~
sighting mechanism comprises a sighting disc (77) that extends to a the top of an adjustment
member.

27. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of A guide wire location means
~~(10) as claimed in claim 26, wherein in which the sighting disc (77) is received on an the end~~
of a circular rod of a the probe (74), the probe (74) having at its lower end a contact member
(76) to engage the femur.

28. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of A guide wire location means
~~(10) as claimed in claim 13 to 17 or 26 in which claim 13, wherein the adjustment member is~~
configured to receive magnetic material (62) may be manufactured in such a manner as to
allow insertion of a magnetic material.

29. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of A guide wire location means
~~(10) as claimed in any preceding claim in which claim 1, wherein the base part is configured~~
to receive magnetic material may be manufactured in such a manner as to allow insertion of a
magnetic material.

30. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of A guide wire location means
~~(10) as claimed in any preceding claim in which claim 1, wherein the base part comprises~~
magnetic material.

31. (Currently Amended) A method of locating a guide wire at an axis of a
neck of a patient's femur ~~using guide wire means (10) as claimed in any preceding claim, the~~
method comprising the steps of:

securing a said base part to the head of the femur at approximately said axis;

appropriately adjusting the attitude of a second part, the second part being
securable to and spherically adjustable relative to the base part, said spherically adjustable
part prior to fitting thereto a third part said wire guide receiving part;

fitting the third part ~~said wire guide receiving part~~ to the second part, wherein the third part is for directly or indirectly receiving a wire guide and arranged for plan or adjustment ~~said spherically adjustable part~~;

setting ~~its~~ a planar position of the third part and subsequently adjusting same if necessary in response to engagement of a portion of a probe ~~said part of the probe means~~ with the head or neck of the femur; and

inserting the ~~said~~ guide wire directly or indirectly into the third ~~wire guide receiving~~ part upon any adjustment of ~~it's~~ the third part's planar position having been completed.